

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 17, 2010. Claims 1 to 3, 7, 8 and 10 to 13 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1 and 7 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 7, 8, and 10 to 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. C (Fischer) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,267,517 (Noda) and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,249,741 (Iwasaki). Claims 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fischer in view of Noda, Iwasaki, and U.S. Patent No. 6, 887, 223 (Sakai). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The present claims concern creating a single print job for a banner by combining a plurality of print jobs and creating a new document name for the resulting banner. To do so, new banner print data is generated for printing a new document name different from a first document name and a second document name, for the combined print job. By way of a non-limiting example, as shown in Fig. 13 of the specification of the present application, a first print job includes banner print data, that is, "Name: XXXX", a second print job includes banner print data, that is, "Name: YYYY", and a third print job includes banner print data, that is, "Name: ZZZZ." In Fig. 14, as a combined result, the name "NNNN" is generated for the banner print data for a combined print job. As a result, a new document name for the combined print job is printed.

Turning to specific claim language, Claim 1 is directed to a method of sending a print job to a printing apparatus in an information processing apparatus having a printer driver for

generating the print job. The method comprises a first generation step of generating a combined print job by combining a first print job and a second print job, the first print job including first page data and first banner print data for printing a document name of the first print job, the second print job including second page data different from the first page data and second banner print data for printing a document name of the second print job; a second generation step of generating new banner print data for printing a new document name different from the first document name and the second document name, for the combined print job generated in the first generation step; and a sending step of sending the new banner print data generated in the second generation step, the first page data and the second page data to the printing apparatus, as the combined print job, such that the new document name, without printing the document name of the first print job and the document name of the second print job, is printed on a sheet.

Applicant submits that the cited references, whether considered alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of the present invention. In particular, the combined references fail to disclose or suggest the features of generating a combined print job by combining a first print job and a second print job, the first print job including first page data and first banner print data for printing a document name of the first print job, the second print job including second page data different from the first page data and second banner print data for printing a document name of the second print job, generating new banner print data for printing a new document name different from the first document name and the second document name, for the combined print job generated by said first generation unit, and sending the new banner print data generated by said second generation unit, the first page data and the second page data to the printing apparatus, as the combined print job, such that the new document name, without printing

the document name of the first print job and the document name of the second print job, is printed on a sheet as featured in Claim 1.

In contrast to the present claims, Fischer discloses that in the event a multiple original copy (MOPY) print job is detected 325 (or if a conventional multiple copy job is detected) in a print job data stream, then an output quantity of the banner page is limited to a single output 330. Specifically, for example, if a MOPY job is detected in the data stream to produce multiple original prints (sets), then rather than printing the banner page with each set, a system in accordance with Fischer modifies the print job data stream 330 to print the banner page only once if all the sets are to be ultimately sent to a single output tray 35. Alternatively, if a banner page is not desired at all, then the stream is modified 330 such that no banner page is printed. (See Fischer, column 10, lines 13 to 25.) That is, while Fischer discloses a single banner page that is printed for a print job having multiple copies, Fischer is entirely silent as to generating a new document for a banner of a combined print job wherein the new name is different from any of the names of the separate documents that were combined in the print job.

Turning now to Noda, Noda discloses creating a banner page for a print job that is not collected by a user when the same user starts a new print job. Specifically, Noda discloses that, in a case that the present and previous user of a printing apparatus are the same (Yes at the step S102), and when a time passed from the previous print job is longer than a designated time (Yes at step S103), it is assumed that printed documents of the previous print job are to be collected by the single user, and a banner page is made at the banner page controller 213 and printed (step S106). (See Noda, column 5, lines 22 to 40.) However, Noda fails to disclose or suggest generating a combined print job by combining a first print job and a second print job, the first print job including first page data and first banner print data for printing a document name of

the first print job, the second print job including second page data different from the first page data and second banner print data for printing a document name of the second print job, generating new banner print data for printing a new document name different from the first document name and the second document name, for the combined print job generated by said first generation unit, and sending the new banner print data generated by said second generation unit, the first page data and the second page data to the printing apparatus, as the combined print job, such that the new document name, without printing the document name of the first print job and the document name of the second print job, is printed on a sheet as featured in Claim 1.

Finally, Iwasaki discloses that crew group schedule data are produced based on a plurality of itineraries, and are produced by combining all boarding schedules for crews of one group in one working unit, while several crew members are united to one group. A crew belonging to the same group works according to each boarding schedule in the group schedule, shifting the work number numbered on the left side of the table of Fig. 4 of Iwasaki one by one. The group schedule data are produced in such a way that conditions such as labor hours, number of overnight shift, meal time and the like become equal for each group and specified working regulations are not violated. In the Office Action, it is contended that Iwasaki discloses generating new data for printing new information and the new printing data is for printing new information different from the first information and the second information, which is not taught by any combination of Fischer and Noda. In Iwasaki, however, the technology is related to working on scheduling of a crew for a train, which is not at all related to generating banner data as are the present claims. Therefore, Applicant submits that it is not permissible to combine Iwasaki with Fischer and Noda as there is no technical overlap to suggest even how such a feat might be accomplished.

Furthermore, even if it were possible to modify Fischer and Noda with Iwasaki, and Applicant does not concede that such a modification is possible, the modification fails to disclose or suggest all the features of the present claims, because, while Iwasaki discloses generating crew group schedule data, Iwasaki fails to disclose or suggest generating a combined print job by combining a first print job and a second print job, the first print job including first page data and first banner print data for printing a document name of the first print job, the second print job including second page data different from the first page data and second banner print data for printing a document name of the second print job, generating new banner print data for printing a new document name different from the first document name and the second document name, for the combined print job generated by said first generation unit, and sending the new banner print data generated by said second generation unit, the first page data and the second page data to the printing apparatus, as the combined print job, such that the new document name, without printing the document name of the first print job and the document name of the second print job, is printed on a sheet as featured in Claim 1. In fact, as shown in Iwasaki's Fig. 4, only eight figures are queued up and no document names are included.

In light of these deficiencies in the cited art, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 7 is directed to an apparatus substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 7 is also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention,

however, the individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

The Director is authorized to charge the requisite \$810.00 fee or any deficiency therein, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3939.

No claim fees are believed due. However, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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